

To all citizens of the Town and Village of Tupper Lake, we, as your elected officials, are working to deal with the potential/pending pandemic outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in our community. This virus needs to be viewed as very dangerous to our residents should they come in contact with this virus, or with others that may be infected or exposed. We are putting plans in effect that will help delay or deflect an outbreak of this virus. While we have no reports of exposures within our community at this time, these plans can be utilized in the event that an outbreak does occur.

We are working with several agencies to gain the proper information and advice regarding this virus. These agencies include the Federal Center for Disease Control, the New York State Health Department, the Franklin County Health Department, and local medical personnel.

Through written material and advice provided by the above agencies we have learned the following. Our goal needs to be to mitigate against the spread of the virus and to reduce its rate of transmission. Working towards this goal, we will take these actions and make these recommendations.

In order to work towards our goal of mitigating and controlling the spread and transmission of the virus, the number one action that can be taken is proper hand sanitizing. For this action the best method is washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 to 30 seconds. This should be done frequently and especially after handling items that are in public. The bottled "hand sanitizers" are the second-best method and should be used when soap and water are not available. The directions on the bottles should be followed.

The symptoms of this virus can begin with the following. A person may feel they have a fever. This may be accompanied with chills. There also may be coughing or respiratory problems. If you encounter any of these symptoms you should stay home and contact your primary physician for further instructions.

If you are going out in the public the following should be done. You should stay away from areas with large crowds or crowded areas. The Governor has issued orders regarding limits on the number of people at an event. The maximum number of people that can be at an event is 500, With an allowed occupant limit in areas that are normally less than 500 being reduced to 50% of the posted limit. At any rate people should allow at least 6 feet between themselves and others. This is necessary as this virus is generally spread by person to person contact such as coughing or sneezing. If you cough or sneeze you should do so into a Kleenex. If a Kleenex is not available you should use the inside of your elbow but not your hands. Any Kleenex used should be discarded into a trash/garbage receptacle and not left laying around.

If we as a community work together we can limit or slow down the spread of this virus and withstand the negative effects of this outbreak. One of the best ways is to work together with our fellow community members to assure that every citizen is afforded the best information we have available. To this end we are in constant contact with the above named agencies. We stand willing to see that any questions you have regarding this virus or methods to control it are answered in a timely manner.

For those wishing to read and research the latest information we are listing the following web sites/phone numbers for your use. Center for Disease Control www.CDC.Gov, NYS Health Dept. www.Health.ny.gov or by calling the NYS Health Hot Line at (888) 364-3065, Franklin County Public Health, www.franklincony.org or by calling the Franklin County Public Health Hot Line at (518) 481-1709 or (877) 410-5753.

If you have further questions, regarding this virus, we will be taking questions by phone at the village office. You should use the phone number 518-359-3341. We will get an answer to your questions as soon as possible.

To repeat from above we will get through this pandemic if we follow our recommendations. If we work together, we can protect ourselves, our neighbors, and maintain the safest community possible.

Respectfully,
Mayor Paul A. Maroun (518) 359-3341 (office), (518) 526-6433 (cell)
Supervisor Patricia S. Littlefield (518) 359-9261 (office), (518) 354-1115 (cell)